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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT INCL. SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION (CLEAN AND MARKED-UP VERSIONS) FOLLOWS THIS PAGE – NEXT 23 PAGES + 1 DUPLICATE PAGE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CHARGING DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ludger GRAUTE, et al.

US National Stage Serial No.:

Not yet assigned

Int'l Appl No: PCT/DE2004/000917

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Art Unit: Examiner: Not yet assigned Not yet assigned

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Preliminary Amendment

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In response to:

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

This is a preliminary amendment filed prior to the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits to provide certain corrections in the above captioned patent application.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. See also Substitute Specification, incl. a clean and a marked-up copy (clearly so labeled), attached hereto.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

Please note that all page and line references are made with respect to the English language translation of the original specification as filed with the International Application on April 30, 2004.